

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04515 01 OF 02 071406Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W
-----071408Z 098176 /41
P R 071335Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8015
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 4515

EXDIS USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJ: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF JUNE 3, 1977
(SALTTWO - 1212)

REF: SALT TWO -1210

AT THE JUNE 3 PLENARY SEMENOV MADE TWO STATEMENTS. THE
SECOND STATEMENT WAS INADVERTENTLY NOT INCLUDED IN REFTEL. THE
FOLLOWING IS SEMENOV'S SECOND STATEMENT.

SEMENOV'S SECOND STATEMENT, JUNE 3, 1977

TODAY THE USSR DELEGATION INTENDS TO SET FORTH ITS
CONSIDERATION ON REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE DEFINITION OF
HEAVY BOMBERS (ARTICLE II, PAR. 3), ALSO TAKING INTO ACCOUNT
THE U.S. DELEGATION'S STATEMENT ON THIS QUESTION AT THE
MAY 31, 1977 MEETING.

AS YOU KNOW, THIS QUESTION HAS BEEN DISCUSSED FOR A
LONG TIME NOW IN THE COURSE OF THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS.
AS A RESULT OF THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, A CERTAIN PROXIMITY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04515 01 OF 02 071406Z

OF POSITIONS HAS EMERGED ON SOME ASPECTS OF THE FORMULATIONS
UNDER CONSIDERATION, BUT AT THE SAME TIME THERE ALSO REMAIN
DIFFERENCES REQUIRING RESOLUTION.

THE APPROACH EMBODIED IN THE SOVIET WORDING FOR ARTICLE II,
PAR. 3, ENSURES A CLEAR DEFINITION OF WHICH AIRCRAFT ARE
INCLUDED AMONG HEAVY BOMBERS ON THE DATE OF SIGNATURE OF THE

NEW AGREEMENT, AND HOW THIS QUESTION WOULD BE RESOLVED IN THE FUTURE.

THE SOVIET FORMULATION UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE DELEGATIONS PROVIDES THAT IT IS PRECISELY HEAVY BOMBERS, I.E., THE SPECIFIC BOMB OR AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILE DELIVERY AIRCRAFT OF THE SIDES, WHICH ARE TO BE COUNTED WITHIN THE 2,400 OVERALL MAXIMUM LEVEL: CURRENTLY FOR THE SOVIET UNION, TUPOLEV-95 MYAISHCHEV; CURRENTLY FOR THE UNITED STATES, B-52 AND B-1.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE USSR DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO STRESS ONCE AGAIN THE AIRCRAFT WHICH THE U.S. SIDE CALLS "BACKFIRE" IS A MEDIUM BOMBER, AND ATTEMPTS TO COUNT THIS AIRCRAFT AMONG HEAVY BOMBERS ARE UNFOUNDED.

AS FOR THE APPROACH EXPRESSED BY THE PHRASE "TYPES OF AIRCRAFT HOWEVER CONFIGURED," WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE U.S. PROPOSAL FOR ARTICLE II, PAR. 3, IT CREATES PRECONDITIONS FOR INCLUDING AMONG HEAVY BOMBERS AIRCRAFT WHICH IN FACT ARE NOT HEAVY BOMBERS.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE USSR DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE AGAIN THAT THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR INCLUDING SOVIET TANKER, RECONNAISSANCE AND ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT AMONG HEAVY BOMBERS.

IT WAS SAID HERE THAT ALLEGEDLY IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN SOVIET HEAVY BOMBERS AND TANKER, RECON-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04515 01 OF 02 071406Z

NAISSANCE AND ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THIS IS A CONTRIVED ISSUE, WHICH BY NO MEANS FACILITATES THE SEARCH FOR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS. NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS ENSURE DRAWING A CLEAR-CUT DISTINCTION BETWEEN HEAVY BOMBERS ON THE ONE HAND, AND TANKER AIRCRAFT, RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT OR ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT ON THE OTHER.

IT WAS SAID HERE AGAIN THAT THE U.S. SIDE ALLEGEDLY IS NOT CERTAIN THE SOVIET TANKER, RECONNAISSANCE OR ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT COULD NOT AS A PRACTICAL MATTER BE CONVERTED INTO HEAVY BOMBERS.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04515 02 OF 02 071355Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W
-----071409Z 097992 /41

P R 071335Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8016
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 4515

EXDIS USSALTTWO

I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS AGAIN THAT THE TANKER, RECONNAIS-
SANCE AND ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT EXISTING IN THE
USSR ARE BY NO MEANS VARIANTS OF THE HEAVY BOMBERS SUBJECT
TO LIMITATION. THEY ARE SPECIAL MODIFICATIONS OF AIRCRAFT
DEVELOPED FOR USE PRECISELY AS TANKER, RECONNAISSANCE AND
ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT RESPECTIVELY. ALL THESE
AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED TO CARRY
OUT MISSIONS WHICH HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THE MISSIONS
FOR WHICH HEAVY BOMBERS ARE DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED. THERE-
FORE, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, THESE SPECIAL AIRCRAFT CANNOT
BE USED AS HEAVY BOMBERS OR ADAPTED FOR SUCH USE; INDEED, THE
VERY THOUGHT OF SUCH CONVERSION IS IRRATIONAL.

ATTEMPTS TO INCLUDE AMONG HEAVY BOMBERS AIRCRAFT WHICH
ARE NOT HEAVY BOMBERS WOULD BE DIRECTLY CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT
AND LETTER OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE OF DEC 10, 1974.

SINCE THE US SIDE HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE
POSSIBILITY OF CONVERTING TANKER AIRCRAFT, RECONNAISSANCE
AIRCRAFT AND ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT INTO HEAVY
BOMBERS, THE SOVIET SIDE PROPOSED SOME TIME AGO THAT MUTUAL
OBLIGATIONS BE ASSUMED NOT TO CONVERT THEM INTO HEAVY BOMBERS.
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04515 02 OF 02 071355Z

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OTHER PROPOSALS OF THE SOVIET
SIDE FOR ARTICLE II, PAR 3, SUCH AN OBLIGATION, BEING AN
ADDITIONAL GUARANTEE OF STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH ESTABLISHED
EQUAL OVERALL LIMITS ON THE STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS OF THE

SIDES, WOULD BE ADEQUATELY VERIFIED BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS AND WOULD NOT REQUIRE THE EXCHANGE OF ANY KIND OF ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION WHICH WAS MENTIONED BY THE US DELEGATION AT THE MAY 31, 1977 MEETING.

IN THE INTERESTS OF REACHING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE UNDERSTANDING, AND GUIDED BY THE OBJECTIVES OF INCREASING MUTUAL TRUST BETWEEN OUR STATES IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEW AGREEMENT UNDER PREPARATION, THE USSR DELEGATION IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO STATE THAT THE SOVIET SIDE HAS NO INTENTION OF CONVERTING ITS TANKER, RECONNAISSANCE AND ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRCRAFT INTO HEAVY BOMBERS.

THE USSR DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THE CONSIDERATIONS SET FORTH BY THE SOVIET SIDE TODAY WILL FACILITATE PROGRESS TOWARD CONSTRUCTIVE RESOLUTION OF THE QUESTION OF DEFINING HEAVY BOMBERS ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY. KLOSSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, SALT (ARMS CONTROL), SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA04515
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770202-0709
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770684/aaaacvlt.tel
Line Count: 187
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 06a4bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 SALT TALKS 1210
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2252660
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF JUNE 3, 1977 (SALTTWO - 1212)
TAGS: PARM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/06a4bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009